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Front Page Edit Other Page Page

Date:

## U.S. Envoy And CIA Agent Split On Policy For Vietnam

SAIGON, South Vietnam—Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge and the head of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) operations in Saigon do not agree on United States policy for Vietnam, the New York Times reported.

The Ambassador would be happier with a new CIA chief.

John H. Richardson, chief of the CIA operation in South Vietnam, is being recalled to Washington, it was reported last night, the Associated Press said. The stated purpose of bringing him home at this time is that he is wanted for consultation, but qualified officials said it was unlikely that he would return to South Vietnam.

The problem is not one of personalities. What is involved is in part the traditional relationship, sometimes of rivalry, between the State Department and the CIA. In part it involves the problem of whether the CIA should be primarily a straight intelligence network, or have operative functions; whether there should be separate chiefs for intelligence and operations, the Times reported.

It is believed here that Lodge feels that when a man is assigned to an important and, as in this case, difficult operative function, the requirements of that post conflict with the objectivity and disinterest required of an intelligence chief.

There is no evidence that the CIA chief has directly countermanded any orders by the ambassador. Assertions that he has are denied in all quarters here.

Rather, even amid the current controversy, it is acknowledged that the CIA chief, for more than a year, has carried out the extremely difficult and taxing job of working closely with Ngo Dinh Nhu. In this aspect of his duties he has done a superior job, say the other members of the mission. It is the basic contradiction between this role and that of an intelligence chief that is at stake.

### Decision Up To White House

Informants here say Lodge has told Washington he wants a new chief, and that the CIA is fighting back hard. The matter is believed now resting with the White House.

It is believed here that Lodge and the CIA chief see this war effort in somewhat different lights. Likewise, they see the proper function of a CIA chief in different

also true that in recent

weeks in Saigon, as a major re-evaluation of United States policy has been taking place, the American mission here has tended to become the theater on a small scale, of the traditional conflict in Washington of the Pentagon, the State Department and the CIA.

Part of the present struggle over the CIA chief is believed to have a parallel in a struggle by Lodge against Maj. Gen. Paul D. Harkins to establish himself as the real as well as the nominal head of the American mission here.

At the moment, some sources say, there is a growing effort to make the CIA the scapegoat for the unhappy events of the last six weeks. When government forces raided Buddhist pagodas on Aug. 21 the CIA seemed confused about what was going on. There followed the demand by Washington that Ngo Dinh Nhu and his wife be pushed out of the government, defiance of that demand by Ngo Dinh Diem, and Washington's decision to go alone with the regime.

Some persistent enemies of the intelligence agency are accused of using recent events as an opportunity to voice their bitterness against the agency.

Many persons in Saigon contend that in general intelligence operatives here are at the highest caliber, and say they have played vital roles in some of most successful programs of the complicated counter-insurgency machinery.

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